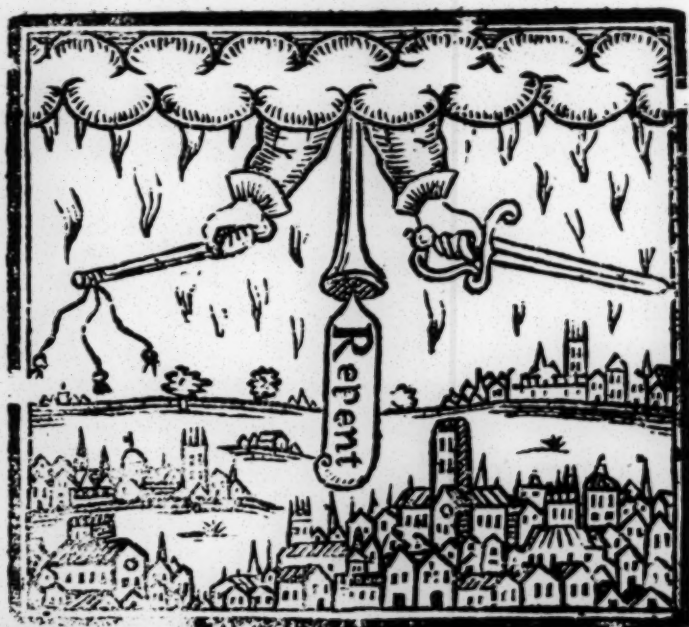


Newes from Heretord.

O R, A wonderful and terrible Earthquake : VVith a wonderful Thunder-clap, that happened on *Tuesday* being the first of *October*, 1661. Shewing how a Church-steeple, and many gallant houses were thrown down to the ground, and people slain : With a Terrible Thunder-clap, and violent Storms of great Hailstone, which were about the bignets of an Egg, many Cattel being utterly destroy'd as they were feeding in the field. Also the wonderful Apparitions which were seen in the Air, to the great amazement of the Beholders, who beheld two perfect arms and hands; in the right hand being grasp'd a great broad sword, in the left a beul full of Blood, from whence they heard a most strange noise, to the wonderful astonishment of al present, the fright caused divers women to fall in Travail; amongst whom the Clerks wife one *Margaret Pellmore*, fell in labour, and brought forth 3 children, who had Teeth, and spake as soon as ever they were born, as you shall hear in the following relation, the like not known in any age.

The Tune is, *A. m not too high.*



O To England of thy Sins in time repent.
Before the wrath of God to thee is sent,
For such great wonders in late time have ben,
The like before I think was never seen.

But this which here to you I shall unfold,
It is the strangest thing that ere was told,
Yet not so strange but that it is as true,
See every word I dedicate to you.

On Tuesday last October the first day,
In Herefordshire there happened such a fray,
By a most terrible Earthquake that did hap,
And violent storms too by a Thunder-clap.

About two of the clock i'th Afternoon;
There did arise a violent storm right soon,
The Air did darken, and did look unkind,
Then rose the storm and a high mighty wind.

Which for two hours space most vehemently
It made the tyles from off o'th houses fly
And vehemently it did blow and rear.
That people durst not to go out of doo,

(down,

And by this storm Church-steeple were blown
That was the tallest of famous Hertford Town
Wherein most famous houses great and small,
Did by this tempest and the Earthquake fall,

And by the houses fall much blood was spill'd,
For many men and women too were kill'd,
By this most sudden Accident I say
And fearful chance and lamentable fray.

After this mighty tempest it was past
The Air did seem to clear then at the last;
And people did look out upon the Air,
And all the Element began to clear.

But presently it overcast again
At six or seven a clock with might and main,
Towards the Evening it began to hail,
Which made y^e peoples hearts more sore to quail.
The hailstones full as big as Eggs were seen,
The like in England nere before hath been.
No tyles nor stones could make y^e hardnesse yield
It did destroy the cattel in the field.

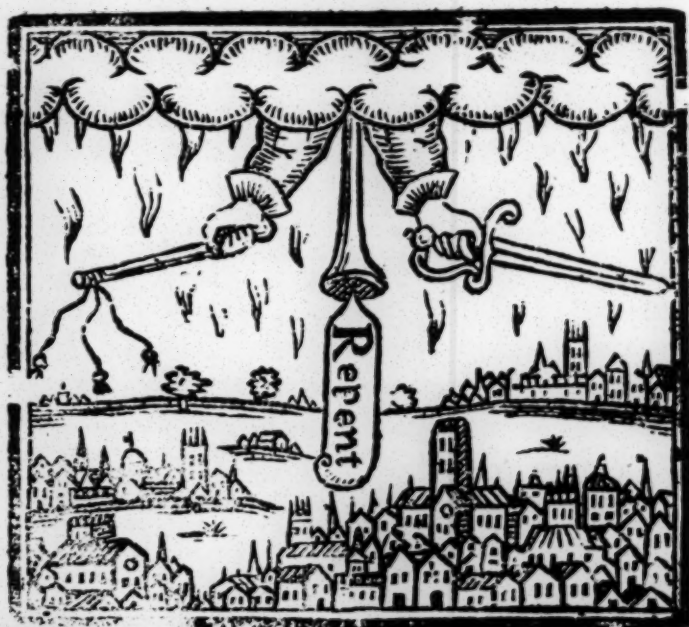
Then followed a terrible Earthquake,
Which made the ground and houses so to shake
And did continue half an hours space,
It many famous buildings did deface.

And sorely did amaze both all and some.
The people thought that the last day was come
Immediately a Brightness did appear,
And as soon day it seemed 'twas so clear.

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Which made the ground and houses so to shake
And did continue half an hours space,
It many famous buildings did deface.

And sorely did amaze both all and some.
The people thought that the last day was come
Immediately a Brightness did appear,
And as soon day it seemed 'twas so clear.



Then presently the Air against clouds,
With a thick darkness overspzen with clouds
And out of which appear'd two arms and hands,
At which amazement thousands people stand,

And gluts their eyes with fulness of this sight.
When they beheld in those two hands that night
In his right hand was grasp'd a great broad sword
And in the left a cup of crimson blood.

Another wonder appear'd from these skies,
Which was beheld by thousand peoples eyes,
Where seem'd to them a piece of Corn to grow,
And in this sight so m'd ready for to mow.

And ready for to mow't a day be lay by,
And from the place came a most mighty cry,
Which said wo, wo to man that draweth breath
And the Inhabitants of all the Earth.

At the conclusion of this mighty sight,
It fearfully did men and women fright,
Women with child which in that town did dwell
A many into labour present fell.

Amongst the rest and strangest too of all,
Unto one Margret Pellimore did befall,
The Clerks wife of the Town as I am told,
Who bore 3 child; on the like was nere unfold.

These child: en they had teeth and spake as soon
As ever they into the world did come,
These words as follow'd from them proceed
The same is verily'd for truth indeed.

The first did say this day no man can shun,
Which is appointed and not yet begun:
Where will be found the second child it said
Sufficient men alive to bury the dead?

These words did then from the 3d. child proceed
Where will be corn enough to satisfy your need?

These were the words they said at that same 'yd
And presently all these three children dy'd.

What man is able in our English Land
The meaning of these things to understand?
It both betoken anger great from God,
How he will smite us with his heavy Rod.

Except by prayer we speedily repent,
And of our wickedness for to relent;
The cup of blood appeared in the sky,
And sharp eng'd sword great wars both signify.

The childrens words do mean great sicknesses;
And to this land the Lord will send great cries;
For to fulfill all what the children said,
The living scarce be able to bury the dead.

The Famine so shall poverty to the Land,
Thus shall we feel Gods wrathful heavy hand.
These are but warning-pieces to you all,
Wherefore repent good people great and small.

Your selves be sure fall not to prepare,
To meet the Lord a coming in the Air.
Give praise & thanks so long as you have breath
Unto your mighty God of Heaven and Earth.

By W. K.

A List of the names of the persons that witnesseth the truth of this, are as followeth.

Fran. Simalman.	James Tully.
Hen. Cross,	Geo. Cox Gent.
Churchwardens.	John Groom.
Peter Philpot.	Robert Maurice.
Nich. Finch, Constables.	Thomas Welford

And divers others, too many to be here inserted.